FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 22, 2015

MLE to Celebrate Six Years of Success with Cocktail Reception, Video Release
Reception at Laguna Resort to Highlight Accomplishments in Urban Family Planning

Nusa Dua, Bali – The Measurement, Learning & Evaluation (MLE) Project for the Urban Reproductive Health (RH) Initiative will host an end-of-project cocktail reception at the International Conference on Family Planning in Nusa Dua, Indonesia.

The event, held at the Laguna Bali Resort & Spa on Tuesday 26 January from 6:30pm – 8:30pm, will recognize six years of accomplishments of the Urban Reproductive Health Initiative, guided by rigorous evaluation, in improving reproductive health and increasing use of modern contraception in urban areas of Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal and Uttar Pradesh, India.

It will feature prominent speakers from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and a short film screening, highlighting the Initiative's successes and impact. In addition, the event will look towards the future of using evidence-informed programming to improve RH outcomes worldwide.

Through interviews with Urban RH Initiative country directors, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Program staff, MLE country managers and researchers, the video demonstrates the importance of the MLE project to provide data to shape the Urban RH Initiative programs.

“Key to all our interventions is building high-quality evidence that can shape the thinking, policies, and practices of a larger community of practice,” Lester Coutinho, Deputy Director, Family Planning at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation says in the video. “That’s why it was really important that a pretty intensive evaluation was mounted on this effort so that we were able to make the case with governments, with other donors, to invest more into these programs.”

For more information on the event or to attend, please contact Rebecca Shore.

Based at the Carolina Population Center at University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, the Measurement, Learning & Evaluation (MLE) Project is the evaluation component of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation funded Urban Reproductive Health Initiative (Urban RH Initiative), a multi-country program in India, Kenya, Nigeria and Senegal that aims to improve the health of the urban poor. The goal of the MLE project is to promote evidence-based decision-making in the design of integrated family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH) interventions for the Urban RH Initiative.

###

CONTACT: Rebecca Shore
+1 410-223-1611
Rebecca.Shore@jhu.edu